

## Indus - a Militant Civilisation; *an inference*

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### Abstract

*Military culture describes how nations react in different ways particularly highlighting response to war. a 'collective response of a nation to its security basing upon its geography, economy, demography, history, social culture, political values, ideology ,industrial strength and composition of armed forces'<sup>1</sup>. Almost all historical inquiries regarding Pakistan & India starts with Alexander the Great for the reason that Indians were poor in recording their history<sup>2</sup>. Indus Valley {Pakistan} was the same arena which Alexander the Great attempted to conquer in 326 BC, the very first recorded military campaign of India. This paper highlights the importance of Macedonian expedition in understanding the military culture of Pakistan.*

### Premise

The earliest civilizations originated in the Asia mainly in the east on the banks of great rivers like Nile, Euphrates, Yellow and Indus. Whereas the history or the epigraphy of Nile and Euphrates has been able to pass down to us the culture and religion of these two great civilisations but no such thing or evidence was available for India other than the oral traditions which are called Vedas<sup>3</sup> ., Rig Veda is thus not only a poem but a history'.<sup>4</sup> The Vedas speak of the battles that took place between the Aryans and the Dravidians. Aryan was fond of warfare and would sacrifice the bull and the cow,. Aryans or Persians all originated from Pamirs<sup>5</sup>. There exist no literary tradition throwing light on the origin and growth of great cities of north west India<sup>6</sup>. The archaeological excavation by John Marshall in 1922 brought up the Indus Valley civilization and also another civilization which strangely did not exist on the banks of river as all other great civilization does, this was the Mehrgarh and Kalibangan which were found in the West of the Indus. Aryans initially established Harappa from where they raided Mohenjo Daro a Dravidian habitat 350 miles downstream. Harappa destroyed the Mohenjo Daro and its subsidiaries in 1500 B.C., Dravidians the natives were pushed towards the east and they today form the majority of population of present day India especially that of South India.

Cyaxares {625-593 BC} and his descendants Cyrus {550-530BC} were able to conquer the Greek cities of Asia minor and later to extend their rule in the east to the inclusion of the Indus river and to its upper mouth at Taxila which the Persians called Gandhara and Sindhu<sup>7</sup> respectively ,they made a satrapy{province } of this Indian conquest, later Cyrus commissioned a Greek adventurer to

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<sup>1</sup> Lawrence Sondhaus, *Strategic Culture and Ways of War* {New York;Routledge,2006}, pp. 1-.5.

<sup>2</sup> , Jawaharlal Nehru *The Discovery of India* {John Day , New York,1945},p-92

<sup>3</sup> Vedas [ means knowledge] which are four in series the first one was composed in 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> century BC and is called Rig Veda

<sup>4</sup> , Raeshwar Gupta *The Rig Veda a History* {Jogendra Nath,Chittagong,1904},p-12

<sup>5</sup> Matthew Arnold& Marie Snell *Shohrab & Rustam an episode* ,,{Werner,Chicago,1896},p-82.

<sup>6</sup> Jacques Houtet & Sir Leonard Wooley *History of Mankind Volume One* {Harper & Row,NY,1962}a UNESCO project ,p 451-458, also see *Glimpses of World History* Jawaharlal Nehru{John Day ,NY,1934}

<sup>7</sup> Jacob Abbott *Cyrus the Great* ,{Harper & Brothers,NewYork,1903},p-114 also see *Shohrab & Rustam an episode* ,p-82

sail down the Indus to have a feasibility of trade and shipping in the river. Darius I {521-485BC} had his empire divided in twenty satrapies.

## Indus Valley & Civilisation.

Indus Valley and Indus Civilisation are two overlapping concepts, where as Indus Valley represents the area astride the River Indus from its mouth in north till its estuary in south. Indus Civilisation represents area and cultures of all those rivers as well who joins and merge with the Indus River.

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Indus Valley was already in knowledge of the Persians<sup>8</sup> who in fact named River Sindhu as Hindu because of the Persian language calling S as H it seems that whole of Indus Valley was under them. The head of the Indus Valley was at Taxila or Tashkila where the Indus enters the plains from the mountains.. The Tashkila was the most prosperous of all the cities and the revenue from here surpassed all the revenue from other cities, it was the Persian province and so was the lower portion of the Indus valley. According to Herodotus the Indians were the most in number in terms of population in all the world and the tax which they were paying was the largest and most numerous of all the Darius's twenty satrapies, they were paying 360 gold dust talent<sup>9</sup> whereas the Bactrian were paying 360 silver talents and the value of gold was 13<sup>th</sup> times more than the silver, Sogdians were paying 300 silver talents.

There existed tribes east of the Indus which had no sense of death or life and were cannibal in nature, within the tribe there were no sick people as when any person fell sick the others will take him to one side and eat him up men will do this to men and women to the women, in another case the person who fell sick will leave the tribe and go to a isolated place and just wait for the death<sup>10</sup>. Darius had no power over these tribes which were probably in the south India, Herodotus also points that there was another tribe which was opposite to the one described above as they ate no animal meat, they sow no corn and eat only vegetables, another tribe was living near the city of Caspatyrus in the country of Pactyica these people dwell northward of all the rest of the Indians and follow the same code of life as the Bactrians, they are the most war like than any other tribe<sup>11</sup>.

Indian soldiers were divided into cavalry and foot soldiers, a foot soldier carried a shield in his left hand , a sword and a bow which was as large as himself , the arrows sharp and nothing can resist an arrow from an Indian bow the foot soldiers also carry a javelin{ not all} their swords were heavy and during striking he will use his both hands for the purpose. The cavalry had the horses which were not saddled and neither had the harness rather they had their own peculiar iron bit, the horsemen would have a small shield.

Social life of India seems to be highly civilized ,people were dark in colour short in height and slim in frame, there is hardly any mention of the white colour by the Greek historians, there were class system in India, with Brahmin being held in high esteem and having the liberty to take anything from the market without any payment, this is quite similar to the pattern in the Nile Valley where the priests were offered daily milk and meat , the mode of transport for the nobility was horse and not one by four horse as riding on one horse was quite undistinguished in nature, camels were also use for transport ,elephants were the mode of transport for the king and the rajas, footwear was made of white leather with heavy soles to increase the height of the person, white dress made of cotton and wrapped around the lower and upper part with a head gear was the standard dress code, people tend to spend the hot summer day under the shade of trees with span so wide that ten people could sit under it. Women and all the other population exhibited high virtues, however it was not taken very seriously if a woman sleeps with another person if the gift is off an elephant and women themselves take it as a

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<sup>8</sup> Nehru,p-104.also see Pliny *Natural History Book VI*,p-30.

<sup>9</sup> Herodotus *The Historia*, translated by George Rawlinson,ed Manuel Komroff,{Tudor,NewYork,1928}, p-182, also see Olaf Caroe, *Pathan 550B.C.-1957 A.D.*{McMillan,NewYork,1965},p-28.

<sup>10</sup> The *Historia* of Herodotus , p-183

<sup>11</sup> Ibid, p-184

matter of pride that their beauty is considered worth an elephant. Marriages are not arranged rather the father will offer their girls to men for marriage only after they have won wrestling or similar competition. Indians have been depicted as healthy mainly due to their simple diet and absentee from wine, the doctors specialized in every part of the body and disease, the nuisance and hazard of snakes and scorpions was manifold as they were found under every stone and caused painful bleeding from pores and ultimately death, yet the local doctors with the help of the herbs were able to cure that, another method of relieving the pain was through singing which was performed by natives all over India. Brahmins took part in the public life and acted as advisors to the king and all of them lead austere life, men used to dye their beard in various colours like red, green, white and purple; men also wear jewellery especially earring made of ivory.

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### Alexander Enters Indus Valley - Pakistan

The Greek cities which were ruled by the Persians revolted in 490 BC and the resultant battle of Marathon as such marked the beginning of the end of Persian hold over the Greeks. Alexander the Great set out from Greece in 330 BC to confront the Persians. He sacked Turkey in 334-333 BC, Phoenicians in 333-332, Persepolis in 331-330 and pushed into Arachosia {Afghanistan} & Sogdia {Uzbekistan} in 329-328 BC, he was in vicinity of Kabul in 327 BC. He was in hunt for the Persian emperor who was escaping north towards River Oxus; Darius was finally assassinated by his own men just before Alexander's arrival at River Oxus. Alexander the Great now decided to invade India.

Alexander had established many cities on his axis of advance all bearing the name Alexandria; a city with his name Alexandria was also established almost 25 miles north east of Kabul and it is from this base that he entered into the present day Pakistan.<sup>13</sup> He had divided his forces into two groups with 30,000 troops<sup>14</sup> under his personal command, the other group advanced through Khyber Pass under Hephaestion and Perdiccas<sup>15</sup> where as he personally marched through the indirect route the one which probably led him through present day Kafiristan- Swat-Bajaur {Aspasians-Guraeans- Assacenians} [present day Gilgit -Baltistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa provinces] 'the route followed the river Choos was rough and mountainous and the crossing of the river was no easy task'.<sup>16</sup> Alexander was wounded in one of the unknown towns in the mountainous area probably in the vicinity of Arigaeum {present day Nawagai} 'Alexander was wounded by a dart in the battle against Aspasians'.<sup>17</sup> Ptolemy account for over 40,000 population made prisoner of war and 2,30,000 oxen were taken.

<sup>12</sup> Arrian *The Campaigns of Alexander* translated by Aubrey de Selincourt { Penguin, 1971 }, p-261.

<sup>13</sup> Arrian, p-194, also see *In the footsteps of Alexander the Great* a video hosted by Micheal Woods, 1998.

<sup>14</sup> Miller, *Imperial Migrane*, pp, -7-10. Jhon Keay gives the figures of 50,000 see *India a history*, p-71.

<sup>15</sup> Yenne Bill, *Alexander The Great*, { Palgrave, McMillan, New York, 2010 } pp-134-135

<sup>16</sup> Arrian, p-240

<sup>17</sup> Arrian's *Anabasis and Indica*, translated Edward James Chinnock { Chickwick press, 1893 }, p-229.

*'The Greeks which entered India through Khyber Pass were offered resistance by the city of Peucelaotis{ present day Peshawar} resultantly the governor of the city was killed in the battle which took place after a siege of thirty days. Arrian and Curtius have left us accounts of the protracted operations that were needed for the subjugation of the Assakenoi. They show clearly that their territory was a large one, extending right away to the Indus. It evidently included, besides the whole of Swat, Buner and the valleys to the north of the latter. These accounts contain details of the places besieged and taken by Alexander; but it had not been possible to fix their position with any assurance so long as by far the greater portion of that extensive area remained inaccessible to antiquarian research. Only for the initial stages of Alexander's march was definite guidance available'*<sup>18</sup>

The time which Alexander took in all this from Alexandria to the Taxila is almost four to six weeks. Thus he must have started his expedition in and around February because Arrian do mention him waging war in the snow.<sup>19</sup> What is strikingly missing is the absence of Nanga Parbat or any other mountain even the famous mountain in Chitral The Safeed Koh{Tirch Mir} is not mention; what is mention is a peak of over 12000 feet and other of 7000 feet which lies almost 75 miles north of Attock. *'Indians offered stout resistance...siege lasted for four days...many Indians were butchered even after surrender...Alexander married the Queen Cleophis of Massaga...Alexander had a son from her.'*<sup>20</sup> Massaga was the largest town in the Swat which had over 7000 mercenaries from India later many served under Alexander the Great but the massacre at Massaga is a black spot on the heroic structure of Alexander. Same is the case with Ora a town 75 miles north of Attock 7000 feet high. Greek historians tend to bring in the Greek mythology into the Indian history by mentioning the Alexander's visit to rock of Aoronos close to Ora; this rock of Aoronos has a legend that Heradis the son of Zeus himself was unable to capture it had a circumference of 25 miles and height of 8000 feet<sup>21</sup>; account of Arrian also records that Alexander after capturing it descended down from the mountains and proceeding towards the 'Peucelaotis which stood not far from the river'<sup>22</sup>. Few natives were captured who later guided the Greeks in locating the crossing point, there is no account of Alexander crossing of Indus 'I do not know...for there is no contemporary account'<sup>23</sup>. Tashkila {Taxila} was occupied without any resistance rather the city and its ruler Ombhi himself associated with Alexander; the probable reason seems to be that being part of the Persian Empire the city considering being a tributary to the Darius now accepted the suzerainty of Alexander the Great thereby avoiding blood shed and saving the economy of the town. *700 troops joined Alexander's forces at Taxila,200 talents of silver ,3000 oxen and over 10,000 sheep were offered for sacrificial purposes and some thirty elephants were also given as gift.*<sup>24</sup>

### **Battle of Hydaspes 326 BC – Pakistan's Cultural Icon**

The next important milestone was the crossing of river Jhelum the ancient Hydaspes 'Alexander the Great took twelve months in leaving Bactria and crossing of Jhelum'<sup>25</sup>; a debate is raging today as to locate the spot from where Alexander made his crossing. There is a stone at the 17<sup>th</sup> hole of Riverview Golf Course at Jhelum which marks that point, other is a village Jalalpur few miles downstream.<sup>26</sup>

<sup>18</sup> Sir Aurel Stein *On Alexander the Great's Track to Indus* Personal Narrative of Explorations on The North-West Frontier of India ,{London 1929},pp,43-48.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid,p-194

<sup>20</sup> Arrian,p-246.

<sup>21</sup> Sir Aurel Stein ,p-43.

<sup>22</sup> Arrian,p-249.

<sup>23</sup> Ibid,p-264.

<sup>24</sup> Ibid,p-258.

<sup>25</sup> Olaf Caore,*Pathan*,p-44.

<sup>26</sup> Fuller *The Generalship of Alexander the Great*{Cambridge,1948}.

The Battle of Porus is a cultural heritage of Pakistan as the historians have nothing but praised for the character of Porus 'a man of character he was different from the Persian Darius who fled from the battlefield... Porus's two sons died in the battle field...he looked majestic after the defeat in his over seven feet tall frame'<sup>27</sup>. The query of Alexander 'what shall I do with you' and Porus answer the 'treatment due to a king' are now part of classic dialogue of world heritage. Alexander and Porus became friends to an extent that Alexander took campaigns to suppress the neighbouring tribes {the tribes across Porus boundaries were called Gleganicae} on behalf of the Porus, all in all, Alexander capture 37 towns after his battle with Porus and the smallest town had the population of 5000 inhabitants.<sup>28</sup>

There are another historic events the most important being the establishing of two cities by Alexander, one in the name of his horse Bucephala who died here and other {Nicaea} to mark the victory. Both these towns are not traceable now. Alexander then move forward towards east in the pursuit of another Porus who unlike his name sake remained a thorn in Alexander's crown and most likely carry out hit and run tactics, the fact that Alexander crossed the River Acesines {Chenab} close to the foothills of Himalayas as indicated by the presence of the rocks in the river 'Alexander's men crossed it on boats and floats it is little under two miles wide and very swift, it is formed by large jagged rocks over which the water pours violently with much noise and commotion'<sup>29</sup> indicates that Alexander went upcountry from Jhelum onwards, again Greek historians have left a void, Alexander then crossed Ravi {Hydraotes} and camped in the present day Lahore District area & Amritsar District {part of India but it was supposed to be part of Pakistan on transfer of power in 1947} 'two days march from Ravi, Alexander reached the town of Pimpraena'<sup>30</sup> at the banks of River Beas {Hyphasis} where he was engaged in fierce battles with the hill tribes of Sanga and Catahaei who took cover in their hill forts for over three days, Greek historians have named few of these tribes but there seems to be little doubt that they are the tribes of present day Jammu and adjoining territories inhabitants {most likely Aryan tribes of Sialkot, the city was the seat of power during Saka's rule in India}. 17000 Indians were killed here as compared to 12000 at River Jhelum.

Alexander cannot fail to take notice of the Kashmir region and the Himalayan mountains running parallel to his eastward path, it seems highly unlikely to his character that that he even failed to send any small force to reconnoitre the origin of the rivers, he himself came up with the theory of linking the Nile with the Indus which was repudiated by his scholars in the field before he put it down in writing for his mother. The ruler of Kashmir, Abisares although did send his envoys but he despite Alexander's calling did not come to meet him this is the first mentioning of Kashmir in the world history.

*'Alexander promptly sent for Abisares adding a threat that should he fail to appear he would soon see the Macedonian army and its commander in chief in an unwelcome spot'*<sup>31</sup>.

It will remain a mystery of the history as to the actual cause of the Alexander's troops mutiny near Lahore, was it due to the fatigue as written or was it to the incessant casualties being suffered in the hands of the native tribes. Alexander did announced his intention to withdraw and as Arrian has put it, the only defeat he suffered was in the hands of his own troops 'I observe gentlemen that when I would lead you on a new venture you no longer follow me with your old spirits'<sup>32</sup>.

The ferocity of the resistance offered to him in the Indus valley do reinforce the theory about the fighting capability and the ability of the Harappa culture but strangely again there is no mention of them in the Greek historians record, what is recorded are very minute details; the number of the boats which Alexander had for his downward journey; over 2000 with 200 elephants, 83 oared galley's and

<sup>27</sup> Arrian, p-280.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid, p-283.

<sup>29</sup> Ptolemy son of Lagus wrote it and quoted by Arrian, p-284.

<sup>30</sup> Arrian, p-286.

<sup>31</sup> Ibid, p-284

<sup>32</sup> Alexander the Great speech recorded by Arrian, p-292.

1,20,000 troops. Alexander in his farewell gift to his friend Porus made him the king of the India with over seven nations and having over 2400 towns under his control.

### **Alexander's Retreat, 325 BC - Multan- Thatta-Mekran.**

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Alexander's retreat on the Hydaspes was full of danger many a battles and skirmishes were encountered in the way although he had both banks secured with his infantry marching in some cases ahead of his flotilla and in others following him to avert any surprise from the natives, the local forts which have been termed as the villages were reduced with violence yet the present day city of Multan and its inhabitants Mallians brought a catastrophe on the Alexander personally and over his army as well, Alexander was critically wounded in the citadel of Multan and the casualties which were suffered by the natives between the start of his retreat from Hydaspes till the crossing of Multan are in excess of 80,000 more than suffered by any other place in India or in adjoining Afghanistan and it was not the end Alexander was constantly harassed by the riparian tribes forcing him to get down from his flotilla and pursue them on land with cavalry thus suffering more casualties and causing havoc on the natives yet unable to break their will to fight, that was the finest season of Indus Valley's history, this continued all along the Indus including the ancient towns of Mohenjo-Daro and KotDijio as well as the tribes of Baluchistan. Alexander at more than two places left his troops and lieutenants on the banks to construct towns and harbours . It took ten months of river sailing before he reached Pattalla the present day Hyderabad or Thatta he camped and made two expeditions into the Arabian Sea before settling down to travel all along the coast line towards the west with the help of the guides including his Indian friend Calanus, his fleet sailed in 325 BC ,this land journey must have taken him from the present day Karachi because it seems improbable that Alexander took his army into the hilly terrain adjoining the western boundary of the area around Karachi. He marched in the present day Bela , Kalat , Makran{Gedrosia} , Gwadar area constantly harassed by hostile population, scarcity of water was so acute that Alexander's troops again mutinied for drops of water and later plead guilty and asked for clemency which was given , the monsoon rain also played havoc during which in one instance even the royal camp was washed away along with many women and children ,it should be noted that over 1,00,000 troops and camp followers were with Alexander in this retreat and almost an equal number or less left in the boats through the sea route. Alexander regarded himself lucky and offered many sacrifices en route and at the end because Darius when he invaded India was able to leave with only seven companions.

### **Impact of Alexander on Pakistan's Military History; Martial Race Concept.**

When Alexander the Great was knocking on Indus Valley's head in 327 B.C. Indus Civilisation had no unity other than they all dwell on the banks of River Indus but their valiant stand against Alexander the Great becomes a historical entity that stands valid even today. Semiramis and Darius, Kings of Persia also had made an invasion of Indus Valley almost 500 BC but Semiramis was lucky to be able to take flight with 20 people thus this resistance to Alexander was not an isolated feature rather a continuity of history.

Alexander the Great's campaigns in India written by his own countrymen' many authors have written about Alexander and how one account differs from other'<sup>33</sup> brought forward certain facts which in a way corroborates the early oral history of the India which primarily was the history of the Indus. Alexander's history brought to notice the northern area of the India as well the tribes. ***The fighting character of the region is martial in nature as dictated by the constant battles offered to Alexander despite very high rate of attrition.*** It confirms the existence of the martial civilization not only in the ancient town mentioned in Vedas and which were excavated in 20<sup>th</sup> century but also bring

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<sup>33</sup>Arrian is universally regarded as the most authentic, Strabo, Pliny, Aelianos, Athenaios, Orosius and Arrian all wrote the history of Alexander the Great.

to the fore new town like Multan and Pattalla and adjoining tribes . The key factor of blue eyes of the certain races of the India which hitherto has been associating themselves with the Alexander and his conquering armies especially the people of Kafiristan and certain Pathan tribes seems to lack logic in the light of above mentioned evidence, the theory that lost soldiers of Alexander took residence in the mountains that fell in the route of his advance especially the Swat-Dir and Bajour lacks arguments because equal number of soldiers were left in the Indus Valley and along the Indus river it self and more important in the coastal area as well but there the people are even today black in colour and hardly ever any person is found there with blue eyes; unless all such persons and their descendants were killed in the subsequent years as a mark of disgust or revenge.

Gangetic Plains civilisation transitioned from Brahmanism to Buddhism under Asoka in 260 BC. Asoka had declared nonviolence as the state's policy, and Gangetic Plains or for that matter whole of India suffered from this policy. The period after the Greek in India is regarded as dark ages by the historians as there was nothing recorded other than few travelogues. However India or most particularly Indus Valley remained under the Greek rulers followed by other Aryan tribes. Aryans or Indus Valley accepted Islam {712 -755AD} after hard fought battles because it was close to their culture, social life and beliefs. Indus Valley's notion of superiority over the other eastern riparian cultures was exhibited and reinforced by the almost nine hundred years of rule {970 AD-1857 AD} by the Indus Civilisation over the rest of India. Mahmood of Ghazna initiated a series of raids which ultimately resulted in establishing a rule of Muslims which in varying shapes and dynasties lasted till end of Mughal empire.

Sikh Empire {1800-1849} was also part of the Indus Civilisation , Sikhs extended the influence till the very edges of the Indus Valley. After the annexation of Punjab by British East India Company in 1849 through hard fought battles, the militancy of the Indus Valley remained alive and true to its historical culture. Later the same area {Indus Valley} became the recruiting grounds for the British military in India.

## **Pakistan 1947-2016**

Pakistan's creation in 1947 was on an ideological grounds with religious difference as the paramount factor; it came through a political process rather than a military resistance. Thus India was divided into two new dominions which historically represents Indus Valley and Civilisation as Pakistan and Ganges Civilisation and culture as India. Even during the political struggle , the character of two main political parties Muslim League which had more base in Indus Valley and Congress which represented politically a secular face but in reality was a Hindu dominated political party; it was Muslim League which resorted to violence and militancy and Congress adopted a more non violent approach.

The clashes erupted between two dominions within the very first week which by the end of 1947 had escalated into a limited war over Kashmir.

It was Indus Civilisation which entered into military pacts with the western civilisation; India on the other hand followed Asoka policy of non-violence and adopted to remain non-aligned. Both countries clashed in 1965 over Rann of Kutch and later a full-fledged war started on 6<sup>th</sup> September 1965. The whole chain of militancy was initiated by the Pakistan, the reason was the Kashmir but fact remains that it was Pakistan which adopted a militant solution to the problem.

1971 War was also a result of militant culture of Indus valley. East Pakistan which despite being a part of Pakistan was not a part of Indus Valley and civilisation, thus Indus valley or West Pakistan refused to accept the rule of East Pakistan. Separation of East

Pakistan into Bangladesh was more on the lines of history than the economic disparity as the cardinal factor. Bangladesh was and still is a Brahmaputra Valley, as the Ganges and Jumna joins it thus Bangladesh have much more in common with India than Pakistan. Not many countries in modern era have been able to recover from a military defeat specifically the developing and under developed nations; but Pakistan was able to recover militarily and economically in post 1971 fiasco. Although no major war has taken place between these two countries but both countries have an extended period of friendship. The nuclear explosion carried out by India in 1974 did tilt the balance in favour of it but in 1998, Pakistan also carried out five successful nuclear explosions to restore the balance of power among the two civilisations.

Indus Civilisation militant culture is obvious from the political history of Pakistan as well. Military took over rule in 1958-1971, then from 1977-1988 and last between 1998-2007. Two conventional wars with India {1965, 1971}, Siachen {1982-todate} and Kargil {1998} limited wars, all took place under military regimes. Insurgency in Baluchistan also has its root in 1964, limited army action in Sindh {1984-1992} are also a by-product of military rule or the Indus Valley militant culture. In post 1947, a considerable number of refugees join Pakistan, which were not an integral part of the Indus Civilisation. The latter riots and conflicts which erupted were mainly between the refugees and the permanent settlers of Indus Valley. The First Kashmir War should also be seen in this context, the tribes which reacted violently to the events in Kashmir, reacted more due to their religious and historical bindings than due to the Forward Policy. Afghanistan<sup>34</sup> in totality is not part of Indus Civilisation; however its Pashtun belt is part of Indus Civilisation as the water of River Kunhar joins in with River Indus.<sup>35</sup> Thus the conflict in Afghanistan has its roots in Indus Civilisation.

## Conclusion

Pakistan which has inherited the geographical boundaries of the Indus Civilisation has also inherited the military culture of the civilisation as well. In current scenario and in future, the peace and prosperity of the region and in the world largely depends upon the events in Pakistan {Indus Civilisation}. Any attempt by any power to subdue the country will likely to have the same results as it happened during Alexander the Great's campaign. *Alexander campaigned almost through all the present day provinces of Pakistan and was ferociously contested everywhere; therefore the notion of martial race certainly applies to the people of Pakistan. It is but logical to assume that Pakistan is a militant nation historically and will resist any foreign rule or domination. Acquisition of nuclear weapon technology is a living proof of this current of history; very few Republics in world do have such virile military strategic culture. Greek expedition brought fruits of civilisation to the Indus Valley and as the expeditionary force remained confined to Indus Valley thus this benefitted Indus intellectually and militarily more than the Gangetic Plains or the Brahmaputra Delta.* Militancy at present has become a taboo word, but as the western civilisation dictates the morality and ethics thus it is more of a western mind set than the native. West tends to change the narrative when it suits them. In United Kingdom, the British takes pride in the fact that they have fought and survived two Great Wars; they call it patriotisms and fighting tenacity of a Bull Dog.

<sup>34</sup> Afghanistan as a country dates back to 1760, before that it was more known in terms of its towns. Country does not have many river most notable are River Oxus, Kunhar and Helmand.

<sup>35</sup> Kunhar takes origin from Chitral where it is known as River Kashqar, it is join by River Kabul near Khyber Pass and river itself merges with river Indus at Attock.



## Further Reading

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